

Office of Congressional Ethics, and for other purposes.

Rollcall No. 122—"no"—Providing for the adoption of the resolution (H. Res. 895) establishing within the House of Representatives an Office of Congressional Ethics, and for other purposes.

Rollcall No. 123—"yes"—On Motion to Adjourn.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO IRVING  
JOSEPH SCHWARTZ**

**HON. JON C. PORTER—**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2008*

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Irving Joseph Schwartz for his service to the United States Military, and his admirable accomplishments and contributions to our country.

Mr. Schwartz was assigned to the 82nd airborne, where he parachuted into Normandy in 1944 six days before the invasion. Due to his great efforts in this battle, he was awarded with the Silver Star for Gallantry in Action, the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Combat Infantry Badge, and Parachute Badge with two Bronze Stars for his combat jumps. He also received the European Campaign Badges, along with the Pacific Campaign ribbons.

Today, Mr. Schwartz dedicates countless hours assisting Jewish War Veterans that are down on their luck, as well as homeless veterans. He is a past National Service Officer for the Military Order of the Purple Heart, and is currently involved with the Purple Heart group throughout the Las Vegas Valley. Mr. Schwartz will be 90 on April 19, 2008.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the accomplishments of Irving Joseph Schwartz, and commend his dedication to the veterans throughout the Las Vegas Valley. I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

**THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE**

**HON. MICHELE BACHMANN**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2008*

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, the 20th century was a time of unprecedented, historic gains in human rights, freedom, and democracy. But it was also a century of unprecedented oppression, carnage and bloodshed.

Millions of families were exiled, tortured and executed because of their faiths, their beliefs, and their ancestries. Countless innocents were marched to camps, slaughtered in streets, and had their blood spilled as though it were nothing more than water. This religious and ethnic genocide is a permanent stain on the history of man.

From 1915 to 1923, Armenians were expelled from their 2,500-year homeland by the Ottoman Empire. To achieve this travesty, the Ottomans murdered 1.5 million innocent adults and children, and raped and brutalized many more. Yet to this day, this act of genocide has been widely overlooked. In fact, it is officially denied by today's Turkish government. This is unacceptable.

As we pledge ourselves to fighting evil and preventing genocide in our modern world, we must keep the past alive. For if we allow ourselves to forget the unthinkable crimes of the 20th century, mankind will be condemned to bear witness to many more.

As we dedicate ourselves today to ending the cycle of genocide, it's important to realize that education is a crucial step in preventing future horror. Groups like the Armenian National Committee of America and others work hard to raise this critical awareness, and I pray that the monstrous horrors of yesterday and today are all the lesson we ever need to end the cycle of death and suffering.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO JIM  
CAVALIERI**

**HON. JON C. PORTER—**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2008*

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend Jim Cavalieri, who is retiring after twenty years of service in the Henderson Fire Department.

Mr. Cavalieri was raised in Henderson, NV where he has resided for fifty-four years. Jim is an alumnus of Basic Elementary School and also attended Basic High School, where he met his wife, Lorna, of thirty-five years. Jim joined the department in 1987 as a firefighter. He would later serve as a paramedic, captain, and deputy fire chief. Jim was selected as Henderson's Fire Chief in May 2001 after thirteen years of service within that department. As fire chief, Jim provided knowledge, experience, and leadership to the department. He led the Henderson Fire Department to receive its accreditation from the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) in 2004.

Mr. Cavalieri is a member of several professional organizations, including Southern Nevada Fire Chiefs Association, Nevada Fire Chiefs Association, and the International Association of Fire Chiefs. Jim is active in his church as well as in community service where he has served as a leader in the Boy Scouts of America.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor my friend Jim Cavalieri. His efforts in helping assist the residents of Henderson, Nevada are commendable. I congratulate him on this prestigious award and wish him the best of luck in his much deserved retirement.

**ONE OF HOUSTON'S FINEST:  
OFFICER AL AMATO**

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2008*

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, police officers dedicate their lives to keeping our streets and communities secure. They selflessly venture into dangerous situations every day and put their lives on the line so that the rest of us can sleep safely. Houston Senior Police Officer Alphonso "Al" Amato, Jr., is one of those elite individuals, who dedicated his entire career to protecting the innocent from evil-doers.

Officer Amato enrolled in the Houston Police Academy in 1981. His first assignment upon

graduation was with the Patrol Division of the Houston Police Department. One of his more notable experiences occurred when he was testifying against an aggravated robbery defendant in the 177th District Court. While he was testifying, the defendant jumped up and threw his chair at the prosecutor. Officer Amato responded, like any top-notch officer would, and without giving it a second thought, jumped up and immediately took the defendant into custody. He was later prosecuted as the trial continued.

Officer Amato has been responsible for removing dangerous outlaws from the streets of Houston. In 1983, he began working on cases involving juveniles and spent the majority of his career working in the Juvenile Division of the police force. While working in the Juvenile Sex Crimes Unit, he investigated more than 1,000 child exploitation cases. Time and again, he has successfully arrested the worst kind of criminal, the one who preys on innocent children.

He has a knack for difficult cases and has taken on the most challenging, where little or no information has been available. Each time, he managed to track down the criminals and bring them to justice.

Not only does Officer Amato have fine-tuned investigative skills, he is also known for his ability to manage a crime scene. He always kept order, even in the most difficult situations, while questioning the involved parties.

During his many years of dedicated service, he has received countless commendations, expressions of appreciation, Unit Citations, an FBI recognition for Task Force and Sting Operations, a U.S. Marshal recognition for Gang Task Force involvement and a Houston Fire Department recognition. He is also well respected throughout the community and among his peers.

Officer Amato's family has a history of service. His father served in the military. Before becoming a law enforcement officer, Officer Amato served in the United States Air Force in Vietnam for 4 years. After his time in the military, he joined the Federal Protective Services and was there until 1977, when he left to join the Chicago Police Department. He stayed in Chicago until 1981 and then began his career with the Houston Police Department. This year, he is retiring from a distinguished career after more than 26 years of service.

According to his fellow officers, Officer Amato served the citizens of Houston with pride, honor and commitment. He is known as an upstanding citizen, a patriotic American and a devoted law enforcement officer.

I would also like to recognize the contributions of Al's wife, Sandy, and daughter, Raven. I commend them for persevering over the difficult job of their loved one serving as a law enforcement officer. Many of the most successful officers have a significant family support system behind the scenes.

On the date of his retirement, March 21, 2008, I congratulate and thank Senior Police Officer Al Amato for wearing the badge of a Texas lawman with distinction while serving the people of Houston. Future law enforcement officers can learn by the example of Officer Amato and realize that one person truly can make a difference.

And that's just the way it is.